

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1971

Sharp Rise in Enemy Infiltration in April Is Expected by U.S.

By WILLIAM BEECHER

Special to the New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Intelligence projections of the infiltration flow into South Vietnam, based primarily on aerial reconnaissance of the lengthy route from North Vietnam through Laos, and into Vietnam, indicate that 10,000 of weapons and ammunition over the last six months—

soldiers are expected to enter double the rate in the same period a year ago—some 3,000 elsewhere at the Pentagon and we would look for a major new campaign."

This would represent two to three times the rate of 3,000 men maintained over whether another enemy offensive is being prepared.

Compounding the difficulty of prediction, the analysts generally concede, are the developments in Cambodia and Laos. For example, military sources say that the closing of Camps

on reports of men strung out along the southernmost reaches of the route. It is estimated that it takes three months to make the trip by truck and on foot, under heavy pressure in the United States to get out as quickly as possible, regardless of South Vietnam's military capability.

"If the higher rate of infiltration should continue for the next few months," said one munitioned officer, "then make much difference militarily to North Vietnam has allowed its troops to fall for many months to the point where many North Vietnamese battalions are at roughly 50 per-

cent of their normal 450-man level. In a few instances two weaker units have been combined. Supplies of rockets, mortars, small-arms ammunition and machine guns have been much higher than required by existing units, these sources say, both to compensate for recent captures of large caches and presumably to preserve the possibility of a big offensive."

Pentagon and State Department sources say that North Vietnam has allowed its troops to fall for many months to the point where many North Vietnamese battalions are at roughly 50 per-